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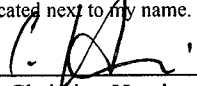
Applicant(s): John J. Hart III, *et al.* Examiner: Dinh, Tan X.  
Serial No.: 10/023,424 Group Art Unit: 2653  
Filing Date: December 12, 2001 Confirmation No: 2326  
Title: OPTICAL STORAGE MEDIUM HAVING DISTORTION REGIONS,  
AND A METHOD OF MODIFYING AN OPTICAL STORAGE  
MEDIUM TO INCLUDE DISTORTION REGIONS  
Customer No: 29344 Attorney Docket No: ECD-0004

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CERTIFICATE OF ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence and any correspondence referred to as being attached or enclosed is being sent by electronic submission to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on the date indicated next to my name.

2/16/2007  
Date

  
Christina Harris

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**Via Electronic Submission**

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT IN CONNECTION WITH A REQUEST FOR  
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)**

Sir:

The following is in response to the Notice of Allowance and Fee(s) due dated November 17, 2006. A Request for Continued Examination (RCE) is filed concurrently herewith. Please amend the application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 15 of this paper.